

TESTIMONY OF HELEN ROSENBERG
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OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
Before the
ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE
Public Hearing of March 5, 2013



City of New Haven
John DeStefano, Jr.
Mayor

**PROPOSED BILL NO. 203: AN ACT CONCERNING PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS
FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES**

The City of New Haven supports the expansion of property tax exemptions for renewable energy sources for commercial and industrial buildings.

Three years ago Phoenix Press, a long-standing New Haven printing company, installed a wind turbine on its James Street property, initiating a discussion among other manufacturers and industrial and commercial developers about the benefits of alternative energy production.

The October, 2012, Connecticut Comprehensive Energy Strategy for Connecticut pointed out that prices for wholesale electricity in New England, and therefore in Connecticut, is high, adding that "Providing low-cost energy options for the industrial sector is essential for Connecticut's Economic competitiveness." The Strategy encourages the use of economic incentives to bring down the cost of renewable energy.

As the economy continues to improve, interest in facility renovation, expansion and new construction in the city for industrial and other commercial uses is growing. Extension of the tax exemption will help assure the viability of proposed projects and business expansions which seek to install energy saving measures, reducing the cost of energy and contributing to a cleaner environment.

Questions or comments, please contact: Helen Rosenberg Economic Development Officer (203) 946-5889